

# **IEEE Berkshire Section Newsletter**

## **Message from the Section Chair**



The Berkshire Section is wrapping up another year. Looking back, it has been a very busy and exciting year. There have been a number of “Firsts” and some of our other activities have been revisited very successfully.

As far as “Firsts” is concerned – we joined the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce and attended a number of their Chamber Nite meetings. We also began working on a TV program called “The IEEE Science and Engineering Forum” in cooperation with Pittsfield Community Television (PCTV). As far as “revisits” is concerned, we went to West Point as part of a joint meeting with both their student chapter and also the Mid-Hudson Section.

Our School Writing Contest is going strong and our Awards Program is in full swing.

Thank you to all for attending our luncheon technical meetings and our dinner meetings. I would encourage you to get involved also in the local Section as a volunteer. If you are interested, contact me.

Have a good holiday season.

Bert Pritchard

Berkshire Section Chair

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## **Berkshire Section Events**

The 2009 Engineering Week dinner was held on February 12 at the Bass Water Grill in Cheshire. John P. Hogan of edm gave a talk on the restoration of the Colonial Theater in Pittsfield, which his firm edm had a roll. The occasion was organized by Allan Boschen.



Presentation of an IEEE pen to speaker Barbara Hochberg by Andrew Miller.

On March 19, 2009 the Berkshire Consultants Network sponsored a dinner and presentation at the Bass Water Grill in Cheshire. The presentation was by Barbara Hochberg and Robert Desrosiers on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Berkshire Community College a membership-led organization committed to the idea of learning as a lifelong experience. The meeting was organized by Andrew Miller.

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On April 17, 2009 the IEEE USA and the Pace Network sponsored a dinner and presentation at the Wahconah Country Club. The presentation was by Professor Abu Selimuddin on the Economic Crisis --- U.S. and the world -- Its causes, consequences, and solutions. The meeting was organized by Andrew Miller.



Professor Abu Selimuddin of BCC speaking to the IEEE Berkshire Section.



Richard Kolodziejczyk presenting Dr. John J. Burke with a certificate of appreciation.

On April 22, 2009 the IEEE USA and the Pace Network sponsored a dinner and presentation at the Cork'N Hearth in Lee. The presentation was by Dr. John J. Burke on Professional Engineer Licensure. The meeting was organized by Richard Kolodziejczyk.

The Berkshire Section Annual Meeting was held on May 14, 2009 at Zucchini's Restaurant. The subject of the presentation was Engineering Project Lifecycle: A Case Study. The presenter was Thomas P. Sullivan a Lead Engineer at General Dynamics. Also at the Annual Meeting was the recognition of the winners of the 2009 High School Writing Contest and the drawing for the Scholar Awards for children of Berkshire Section members. The meeting was organized by Joe Slocik .



Joe Slocik presenting an IEEE Pen to the presenter Thomas P. Sullivan.

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The Winners of the 2009 Scholar Awards are: Emily Ury, Elizabeth Ury, and Ryan Sullivan



Joe Slocik and Bert Pritchard with the Monument Mountain winners of the 2009 High School Writing Contest drawing the winners of the 2009 Scholar Awards.



George Haus with Willie Watkins of Monument Mountain, Jessica Stevens of Monument Mountain, Alison Crandall of Lee and Christian Austin of Pittsfield, winners of the 2009 High School Writing Contest.

The Winners of the 2009 High School Writing Contest are:

## **Grades 9/10**

First - Sam Levin of Monument Mountain for “Evolution of Ethology”

Second - Willie Watkins of Monument Mountain for “The Chemistry of Batteries”

Third - Christian Austin of Pittsfield for “Language”

Honorable - Rachael Bell of Miss Hall’s for “The Stoop Effect”

Honorable - James Zuber of Lenox for “Autism: An Environmental Epidemic”

## **Grades 11/12**

First - Alison Crandall of Lee for “The Energy Crisis: Alternative Energy Solutions”

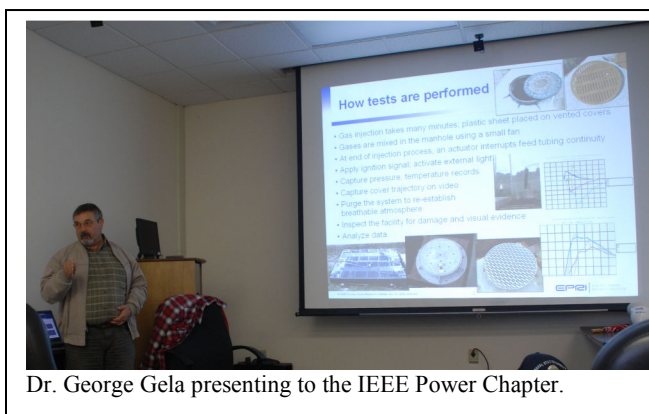
Second - Jessica Stevens of Monument Mountain for “Resveratrol”

Third – Malina Filkins of Miss Hall’s for “Autism: A Puzzle of Many Pieces”

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Honorable – DoYoung Lim of Darrow for “The History of the Microwave Oven – The Greatest Discovery Since Fire”

Honorable – Elissa Bordeau of Pittsfield for “A.L.L.A. Helping People Make Music Every Day”



Dr. George Gela presenting to the IEEE Power Chapter.



Manhole Event Demonstration at the EPRI Lenox High Voltage Laboratory.

On May 28 the IEEE Power Chapter presented a Live Demonstration of a Manhole Event at the EPRI Lenox High Voltage Laboratory, 115 East New Lenox Rd, Lenox Ma. The presenter was George Gela, Ph.D., P.Eng. a Technical Executive EPRI – Lenox Lab.

In July of 2009 the IEEE Berkshire Section became a member of the Berkshire County Chamber of Commerce.

<http://www.berkshirechamber.com/>



Speakers at the IEEE Berkshire Consultants Network meeting.

On November 12 the IEEE Berkshire Consultants Network presented a dinner meeting at Cork 'N Hearth restaurant in Lee. The subject of the presentation was Best Practices for Power Quality Analysis given by Scott Mara of Advanced Industrial Solution, LLC. The meeting was organized by Rich Kolodziejczyk.



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## **Region One Events**



On October 17 the Berkshire Section Executive Committee along with the West Point IEEE Student Branch and the Mid-Hudson IEEE Section hosted a tour of the West Point Military Academy. The tour included a tour of the visitor center, a boat tour and lunch buffet on the Hudson and a tour of the academy engineering labs. The tour was organized by Bert Pritchard.

Members of the IEEE Berkshire Section boarding the boat for the lunch buffet and tour of the Hudson.

## **Other Events and Resources**

The Careers section of the IEEE Web site now lists 29 employment- related resources, including job listings, career advice, continuing-education programs, and networking opportunities.

<http://www.ieee.org/web/careers/home/index.html>

Here's a sample of what is available.

**IEEE Job Site.** Matches your skills with online job listings. Create a personal profile, and the site will e-mail you when a job listing matches your criteria.

[http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/prod\\_jobsite.html](http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/prod_jobsite.html)

**IEEE Student Job Site.** Leads college students and recent grads to entry-level jobs, internships, and other opportunities. View help-wanted listings, job fairs, and other announcements posted by employers, IEEE student job

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network, which collects openings from its own national listings and from the IEEE Job Site.

<http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/studentjobs.html>

**Employment Navigator.** Collects roughly 5 million leads from some 100,000 Web sites with job openings, and puts them in a searchable database. The information comes from corporate Web sites and job boards, as well as from job sites dealing with a particular industry, occupation, or geographic area.

[http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/prod\\_employmentnav.html](http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/benefits/products/prod_employmentnav.html)

## **IEEE in Second Life®**

Second Life® is an online 3-D virtual world within which residents are able to establish identities (avatars), explore, create, and communicate. Referred to as "inworld" by its residents, this interactive environment lends itself well to social networking, collaboration, and learning. IEEE has created in Second Life® a virtual infrastructure and presence to support its staff, volunteer, and member needs. This presence is spread across two islands and serves as a gateway for people to explore and participate in the activities of IEEE. Opportunities to help develop the IEEE islands are open to IEEE staff, volunteers, and member groups. [View IEEE in the Virtual World](#) . If you'd like to participate, please [e-mail the IEEE Second Life Team](#) expressing interest to become involved.